

March 15th, 2024

# Welcome to the Together Newsletter

#### An Invitation to Service + AC Updates

Hello everyone!

Annual Celebration 2024 is coming up quickly, and we're excited to share more information with you in the coming weeks. For now, please check out the <u>Save the Date page</u> on the RMC website, and keep your eyes on your email inbox for additional updates.



As Annual Celebration approaches, we hope that you'll prayerfully consider offering your skills and passions on behalf of the Conference. This week, Acting Conference Minister, Rev. Erin Gilmore, would like to share some of her <u>reflections</u> on this particular topic, which we invite you to read and contemplate. If you feel called to contribute your time and talents to the RMC, please read more about the RMC's many positions and fill out the 2024 Nomination Form via the link below.

Descriptions of Elected RMC Positions + Nomination Form

Earlier this week, we sent out some important news from the RMC's Board of Directors. If you missed the email, you can click the link below to catch up.

#### **News from the Board of Directors**

For additional news from around the conference, we invite you to follow the RMC on Facebook and Instagram.

To share your good news, prayer requests, volunteer opportunities, and upcoming events with the rest of the conference, **please send your submissions to** <u>allison@rmcucc.org</u>. We'd love to include your stories in this newsletter and on social media.

Warmly, Allison

#### News from Around the Conference

## **Announcements + Upcoming Events**

# RMC Seminary Scholarship Applications Due March 15th!

Did you know that we have a scholarship fund for seminary students in the Rocky Mountain Conference? Originally the Iliff Scholarship Fund, the donors have agreed to expand eligibility of this scholarship fund to those attending other schools.



<u>Click here to learn more</u> about this opportunity, and <u>click here</u> to access the application.

Applications are due by March 15th!

#### Celebrating the Life of Reverend John Gaudreau

Rev. John Gaudreau died on March 11th, 2024 in Denver surrounded by his family. His Celebration of Life Service will take place this coming **Sunday**, **March 17th at 5 pm** at Community of Grace Presbyterian Church (formerly Trinity Presbyterian Church) located at **7755 Vance Drive**, **Arvada**, **Colorado**.



### Join UCC Musicians this Saturday!

The UCC Musicians Association exists to support church musicians all over the UCC and beyond. Join their virtual conversation this Saturday for a discussion of how church music programs have changed since the COVID-19 pandemic.

<u>Please register</u> to participate.



# Open and Affirming 2.0 Workshops Interest Forms Due by March 18th

Thanks to a Rocky Mountain Conference "In the Mud" grant, Juniper Formation UCC has developed a 2-hour workshop to support your congregation's ongoing ONA work.

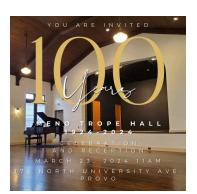
ONA 2.0 workshops will be offered in **April - May** 

2024, and scheduling is flexible. If your congregation is interested in participating, please <u>fill out this form</u> by
 March 18th. Email <u>Rev. Candace Woods</u> with any questions.

Lastly, please check out the UCC ONA website for even more webinars and events and apply to volunteer with the UCC ONA Coalition.

## **Celebrating 100 Years!**

This month, Provo Community Congregational UCC is celebrating the historic Meno Trope Hall, which has been home to the congregation for the last century and is also included in the National Register of Historic Places! For those who wish to join the festivities, you're invited to an inperson celebration and reception on March 23rd.



### Calling All Number-Crunchers!

Due to the timing of drafting the 2024-25 budget, the RMC Finance Committee is seeking a couple of new members ahead of the regular nominating cycle for the Annual Celebration. In the interest of getting diverse geographic voices represented on the Finance Committee, we are particularly interested in volunteers from outside of the MDA. If you are interested in helping the RMCUCC reimagine the way in which the Conference invests in transforming lives, please contact RMCUCC Treasurer,

Rev. Kari Collins at pastorkaricollins@gmail.com.

# What is Christian Nationalism, and Why Is Everyone Talking about It Now?

Rev. Dr. Amanda Henderson March 19th at 6:30 PM MT via Zoom

The Colorado Council of Churches invites you to this webinar about the history, myths, and political trends of Christian Nationalism. The webinar will be led by Rev. Dr. Amanda Henderson, the Director of the Institute of Religion, Politics, and Culture at Iliff School of Theology. *Register here to join the conversation*.





# LGBTQ+ Potluck Luncheon on March 17th

First Plymouth Church in Denver invites you to their LGBTQ+ Support Group and Potluck on the 3rd Sunday of every month. Visit their website to learn more about the event.

### **Bilingual Volunteers Needed!**

The Colorado Council of Churches is looking for bilingual volunteers (Spanish & English) who can help eligible immigrant newcomers apply for work eligibility.

<u>Click here</u> to learn more!

### **Create! Family Retreat**

Registration Closes on April 5th

Join La Foret for the upcoming <u>Create! Family</u>
<u>Retreat</u>, a collaborative weekend of exploration
and creation for families of all dynamics. <u>Visit the</u>
<u>La Foret website</u> to **register by April 5th!** Plus,
check out a special event with <u>John Philip</u>
<u>Newell</u> coming up in May.





### **Sharing the Celebration**

First Congregational UCC in Colorado Springs is celebrating their 150th year as a congregation, and special events will be happening throughout the year. If you find yourself near Colorado Springs on any Sunday morning, you're invited to join for Worship at 10 AM, or you can <u>visit their website</u> to learn more about upcoming events.

#### **Last Call for Free Furniture!**

As the Conference office moves to a new temporary location, we have free furniture to give away, including bookcases, a pull-down screen, and some office chairs. Interested parties must be able to get to the RMC office in Denver on April 2nd to pick up any desired items.

**Interested?** Email Allison!

# **Now Hiring!**

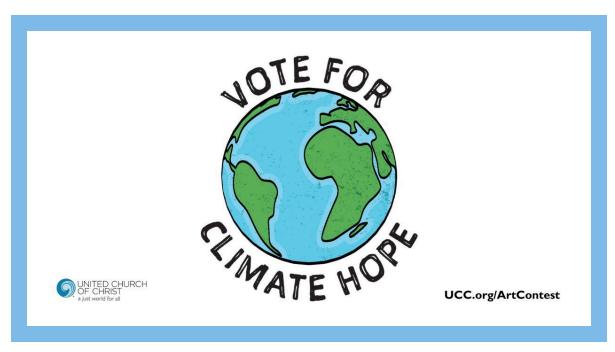
Highlands Church Denver is looking to hire a new Co-Pastor. <u>Visit their website</u> to learn more about the position and apply!





#### Upcoming Ecclesiastical Council for Samantha Bronson

All members with standing in the RMC and Lay Delegates from every member church are encouraged to attend and offer support to Samantha as she continues the journey toward ordination in the United Church of Christ. This event will be happening via Zoom on April 23rd at 7 PM. Please register to participate, and please take some time to learn more about Samantha.



#### For Children and Youth: UCC Climate Hope Art Contest

To give our children and youth a voice this election season, while also reminding adults of their responsibility for the next generation, the UCC is conducting a *Vote for Climate Hope* Art Contest. Submissions will be accepted until April 16th.

Register your congregation today!

# The Rocky Mountain Conference office has a new mailing address!

As you may know, the RMC office is in the process of moving to a new location. We're excited to report that our current building is once again under contract, and the tentative closing date is April 1st. We hope that we'll be moving into our new temporary space at 6th Avenue UCC soon.

Going forward, we ask that you use the following mailing address:

303 S. Broadway Ste 200-330 Denver, CO 80209

## Comments? Questions?

#### **Email Allison!**

#### Follow the RMC on social media!

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